



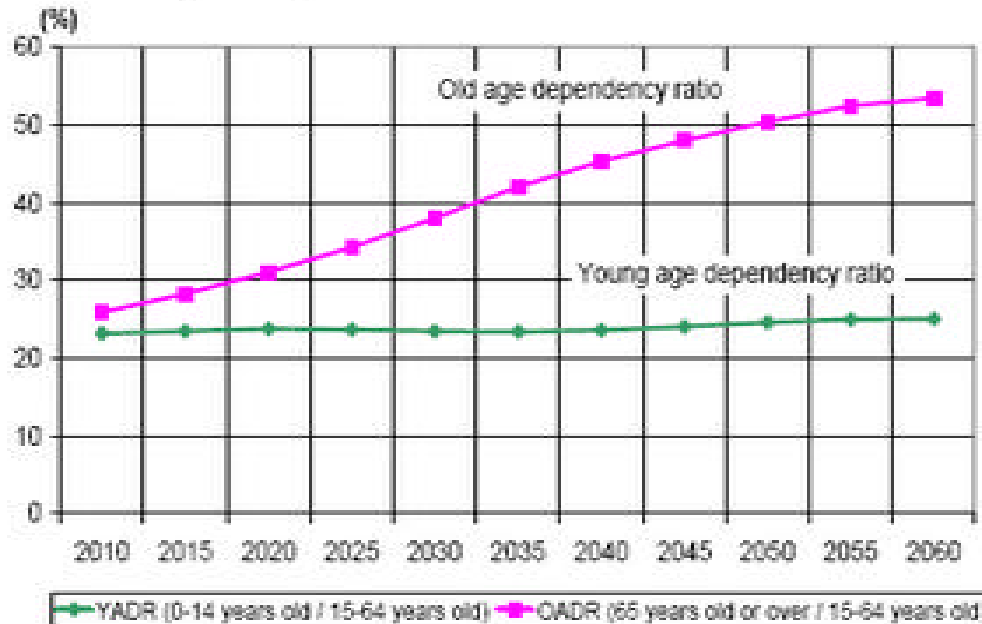
Recognising ethical issues in ICTs targeted at the Elderly

(Ethical Issues of Emerging ICT Applications)

Dr. Kutoma J. Wakunuma



Growing ageing population



Source: Eurostat, EUROPOP2008 convergence scenario

ICT Initiative examples

*i2010 EU policy framework initiative

*FP7 ICT thematic area with 7 ICT challenges, 2 of which are directly related to the elderly

- C5. Towards sustainable and personalised healthcare

- C7. Independent living, Inclusion and Governance

*Ambient Assisted Living (AAL)

Nature and Characteristics of the ICTs

Embedded in user environment

Wearable

Implantable

Robotic services

Monitoring

Remote access

Minimally invasive sensor systems

ICT enabled artificial organs

Ethical perspective

- **Ethics?**
 - Moral issues and values. It is about the principles as well as practices that are ascribed to in daily life. Quinn (2006) suggests, ethics is “a rational examination into people’s moral beliefs and behaviour” (p. 55).

Possible Identifiable ethical concerns

Data management and protection
Informed consent
Privacy
Dignity
Dependence
Isolation
Implantable and wearable technologies

The ETICA Project

- * ETICA is looking at emerging technologies and arising ethical issues likely to materialise in the next 10 – 15 years
- * Make recommendations to policy makers on how to address ethical issues in emerging technologies
- * It's a consortium of members who include:
 - De Montfort University as Coordinators
 - VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland
 - University of Namur
 - Technical University of Delft of Delft
 - Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe
 - University of Lodz
 - Steinbeis Hochschule
 - Eotvos Karoly Public Policy Institute

Current ICT Ethics

- *Arrives too late
- *Reactive rather than proactive
- *Poor at handling issues of future uncertainty
- *Inability to feed into policy formulation

ETICA Approach

- Feedforward not feedback
- Proactive early on

Why this approach

- *Ethical issues will be identified early on in their development
- *Developers and users will be much more proactive and more in tune with user needs
- *Provide an opportunity to be more aware of ethical issues early on which may lead to establishment of guidelines
- *ICT policy likely to be developed as technologies emerge and not when they are already in hands of users
- *European view of emerging ICTs and subsequent ethical issues is important because it is developed in intercultural discourses
- *Help identify new ethical concerns particularly as ICTs are dynamic and bound to change

ETICA at present

- *Began looking at emerging technologies
- *We will then develop an ethical matrix which will help us identify arising ethical issues
- *We will be talking to and analysing ICT projects under FP7. These are currently being developed and will be able to give insight



How to follow ETICA events as they unfold

*1st ETICA conference on 13th April in Spain
More information from: www.etica-project.eu

kutoma@dmu.ac.uk